

“A Journey Through Texas” *from* The Journey of Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca
by Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca

“Boulders Taller Than the Great Tower of Seville” by García López de Cárdenas

Enrichment: Career as a Travel Writer

While becoming an explorer is probably not the most practical of career choices, familiarity with exploration narratives can help you in the more likely career of travel writer. Many elements of exploration narratives are directly translatable into guidebooks a travel writer might pen about a particular locale. For example, a frequent purpose of exploration narratives is to report information to someone considering a visit to the place being described. This is almost always the aim of a guidebook. In addition, the most interesting guidebooks, like the best exploration narratives, provide the personal viewpoints of the author. Finally, a good guidebook, like an exploration narrative, usually discusses any difficulties of traveling through the area being described.

DIRECTIONS: *Use what you have learned about exploration narratives to write a guidebook to your community. What aspects of an exploration narrative would you use to guide you as you collect information and write your copy? Use the chart below to help you plan your guidebook.*

Name of my area:
Geographic facts and figures:
Special characteristics:
Things to do:
Difficulties to keep in mind:
My personal opinions on the area: